

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 3, 1950

My dear Admiral Hillenkoetter:

I have reviewed the proposed transfer of that portion of the National Intelligence Survey program relating to petroleum from the Bureau of Mines, Department of the Interior, to the Petroleum Division of the Munitions Board.

It is my firm conviction that national security objectives require the maximum effective utilization of the established civilian agencies. Only by the integration of this continuing work with the direct efforts of the military establishments can we successfully attain our security objectives and avoid unnecessary duplication. The National Intelligence Survey has utilized the civilian agencies in appropriate areas and a continuation of this policy will result in further integration of the kind I suggest. In view of the existing responsibilities and facilities of the Department of the Interior in the minerals field, it is my conclusion that fullest reliance should continue to be placed on its resources in carrying out the objectives of your program and that the NIS petroleum assignment should be continued in the Bureau of Mines.

A copy of this letter is being forwarded to the Secretary of Defense, the Chairman of the National Security Resources Board, and the Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers. I am also informing the Secretary of the Interior of my decision in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ HARRY S. TRUMAN

Rear Admiral Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter  
Director, Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington 25, D. C.

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